



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of

Applicant : Ted J. Reffett
Serial No. : 10/693,469
Filed : October 24, 2003
Title : COMBINATION SHIPPING LABEL AND PACKING SLIP FORM
Docket No. : STD 1141 PA
Examiner : Battula
Art Unit : 3722

DECLARATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.131

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

I, Ted J. Reffett declare and state:

1. I am the sole inventor of the above-identified patent application.
2. Prior to April 4, 2003, I conceived the idea of using a combination shipping label and packing slip where information can be printed to a single side of the form in a simplex printing operation as described and claimed in the subject application.
3. On October 24, 2003, I constructively reduced the subject invention to practice by filing a patent application with the United States Patent & Trademark Office (USPTO). That application was given serial number 10/693,469 by the USPTO.
4. In accordance with current practice, as sanctioned under MPEP §715.07, I have left blank all diligence dates up to a time just prior to the April 4, 2003 filing date of U.S. Published Patent Application US 2004/0195824 to Blank. At least from a time just prior to that date until the October 24, 2003 constructive reduction to practice of application 10/693,469, I was diligent in my efforts to pursue patent protection. This diligence, and the diligence of those who acted on my behalf, is evidenced by the following acts.

5. Prior to April 4, 2003, I prepared an invention disclosure (Atch. A), discussing, among other things, the feature of having a packing slip and shipping label that can be printed by various conventional printers, then to have the packing slip be hand applied to a shipping container in a single step.

6. In accordance with the standard business practice of my employer, The Standard Register Company (hereinafter the Company), who is also the Assignee of the subject invention, the invention disclosure was forwarded to both the Company's Manager of Intellectual Property, Gary M. Cairns, who then sent a copy to outside patent counsel, James F. Gottman of Killworth, Gottman, Hagan & Schaeff (KGHS). The invention disclosure accompanied a letter (Atch. B) to Mr. Gottman to request that KGHS render an opinion as to patentability of the combination shipping label and packing slip form. These events occurred prior to April 4, 2003.

7. Prior to April 4, 2003, Mr. Gottman sent an opinion letter reporting the results of his patentability search to Mr. Cairns.

8. Prior to April 4, 2003, Mr. Gottman sent an updated opinion letter to Mr. Cairns to report on an additional piece of art that Mr. Cairns wanted an opinion rendered on.

9. Prior to April 4, 2003, Mr. Cairns sent Mr. Gottman an e-mail message requesting that a patent application be prepared.

10. Prior to April 4, 2003, Mr. John D. Reed of KGHS sent a facsimile request to patent illustrator Diane Petzold to have drawings pertaining to the invention of the subject application be prepared.

11. On May 9, 2003, Mr. Reed sent a preliminary draft of the subject invention to Mr. Cairns for review.

12. On June 5, 2003, Mr. Cairns sent an e-mail to Mr. Reed explaining that extensive revisions to the subject application would be needed.

13. Mr. Reed met with Mr. Cairns sometime after June 15, 2003 to review the subject application, after which Mr. Reed prepared an updated draft.

14. On September 2, 2003, Mr. Cairns sent an e-mail to Mr. Reed indicating that the latest revision of the subject application was ready for filing and the preparation of formal papers.

15. On September 5, 2003, Mr. Reed sent a final draft of the subject application to Mr. Cairns for review, as well as a set of formal papers for signature.

16. On October 13, 2003, Ms. Jane Bannon, the Senior Research Assistant to Mr. Cairns, sent Mr. Reed the fully executed original application and formal papers, as well as instructions to file the same with the USPTO.

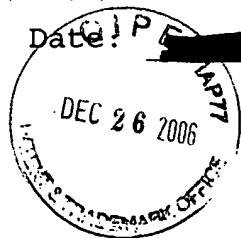
16. On October 17, 2003, Mr. Reed sent a letter to Mr. Cairns indicating that some of the claims were numbered incorrectly. In addition, Mr. Reed sent a new Declaration and Power of Attorney for signature.

17. On October 24, 2003, Mr. Reed filed the subject application and formal papers.

18. In a filing receipt (Atch. C) that was mailed on January 27, 2004, the USPTO acknowledged application 10/693,469, giving it a filing date of October 24, 2003.

19. Further, I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true, and further that these statements are made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application and any patent issued thereon.


Ted J. Reffett 12/13/06



Our Docket No. PD02-14
Counsel Docket No. _____

THE STANDARD REGISTER COMPANY
INVENTION RECORD

Bryce C. Waggoner Label Solutions 20544
Inventor's Name Department Employee No.
375 Randy Lane Butler Monroe, OH 45050
Home Street Address County City, State, Zip

Tom Dew Label Solutions 12923
Inventor's Name Department Employee No.
100 Morningside Circle Chester Downingtown, PA 19335
Home Street Address County City, State, Zip

Ted J. Reffett Label Solutions 20545
Inventor's Name Department Employee No.
229 Terry Ct. McHenry Woodstock, IL 60098
Home Street Address County City, State, Zip

Date of Conception [redacted]	First Disclosure to Others Inside Standard Register [redacted]
First Sketch or Drawing Made [redacted]	First Disclosure to Others Outside Standard Register [redacted]
First Device Made [redacted]	Date First Written Description [redacted]
Date First Offered for Sale [redacted]	Date of First Sale

Other Events Pertinent to Invention: ^a Waggoner and Dew Dates; ^b Reffett Dates
Waggoner and Dew's inventions are directed to a one-step printable packing slip label. Reffett's invention contribution is towards a simplex printed combination packing slip and shipping label form.

TITLE OF INVENTION

Shipping Label/Packing Slip Combination

ATTACHMENT A

What is the invention? (If possible compare invention to old or other methods at present in use. State the difference.) Please attach papers showing conception of the invention and progress toward reduction to practice.

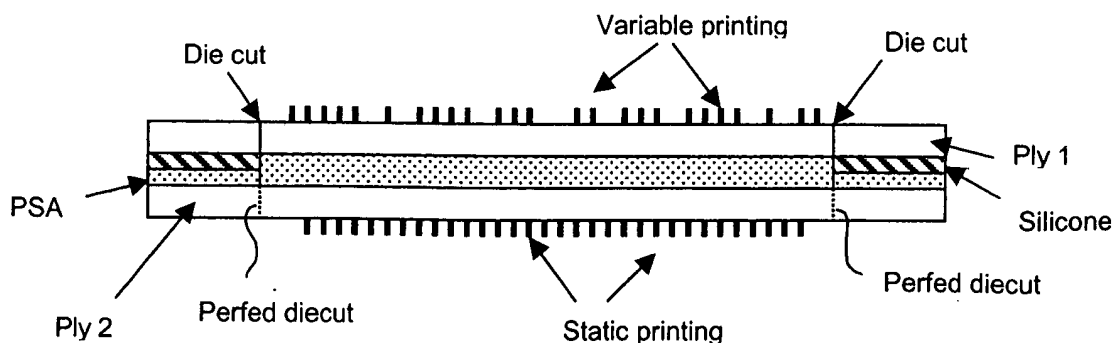
When shipping products from a distribution center directly to the consumer or to a store, it is common to prepare a packing slip detailing the contents inside the carton. Typically, this is a piece of paper or part of a label/form combination that is either inserted inside the carton or placed in a clear envelope and stuck to the outside of the carton. This outside-the-carton application requires multiple steps. The piece of paper (packing slip) has to be folded multiple times, and then hand-inserted into the clear plastic pouch. A liner is removed to expose adhesive and then the clear plastic pouch is adhered to the box.

The present invention allows for the packing slip to be created by various printer technologies, then hand applied to the carton in one step. After imaging, the backer is removed in a "picture frame" fashion around the outer edge of the label, exposing adhesive in the area, and the label is adhered to the outside of the carton.

The present invention is a pressure sensitive construction comprising top ply of paper or film, an adhesive layer, a pattern of silicone, and a bottom ply of paper or film. The material used in the top ply must be compatible with the type of printer or writing device being used. The back of the top ply has a patterned silicone printed around the perimeter so that adhesive is exposed in a "picture frame" fashion when a portion of the top ply is removed. A die cut inner portion of the top ply is permanently glued to the bottom ply and becomes the "packing slip." The label is applied to the intended surface, typically a carton, so that the image from the printer or writing device is facing toward the carton and hidden from view. The label is adhered to the carton using the "picture frame" of exposed adhesive. The middle portion or "packing slip" of the label is removed by inserting a finger or some other device at a "slit" end of the middle portion and pulling up on the perfs to remove the "packing slip." The advantages are:

- 1.) A one-step application of printing and affixing a "packing slip" to the outside of the carton.
- 2.) It can be constructed to work with any type of printer.
- 3.) The packing slip information is secure from view yet easy to get to when needed without opening the carton.

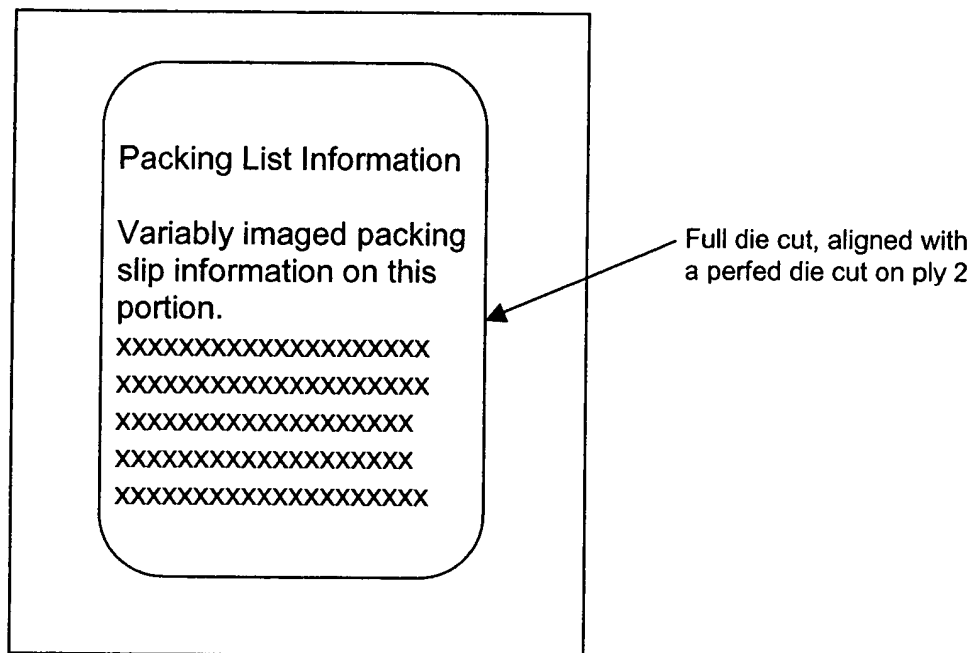
See drawing below, and drawings on pages 3 & 4.



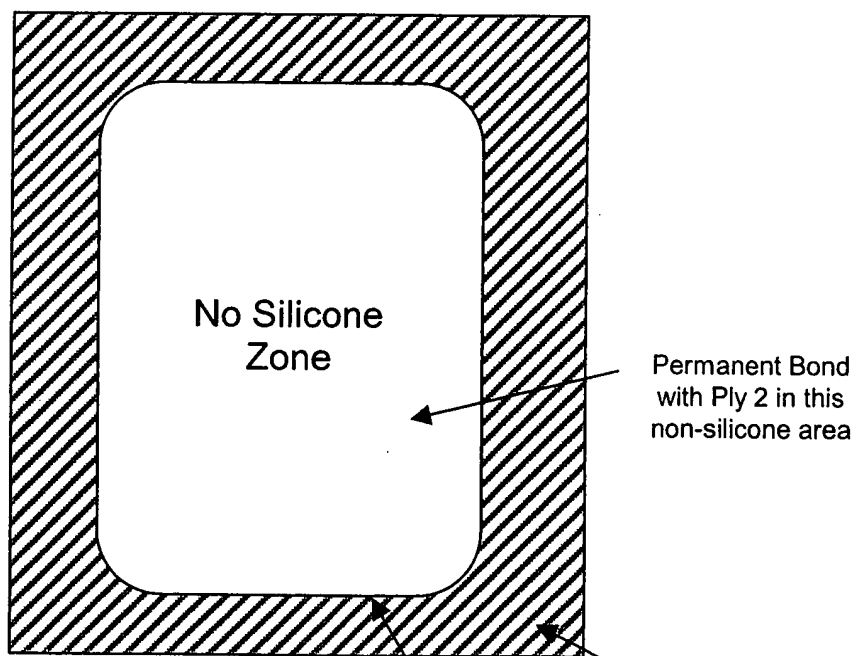
Cross Section of Packing list Label

DESCRIPTION OR SKETCH

Describe the product or process in minute detail and give all the possible advantages of the invention.



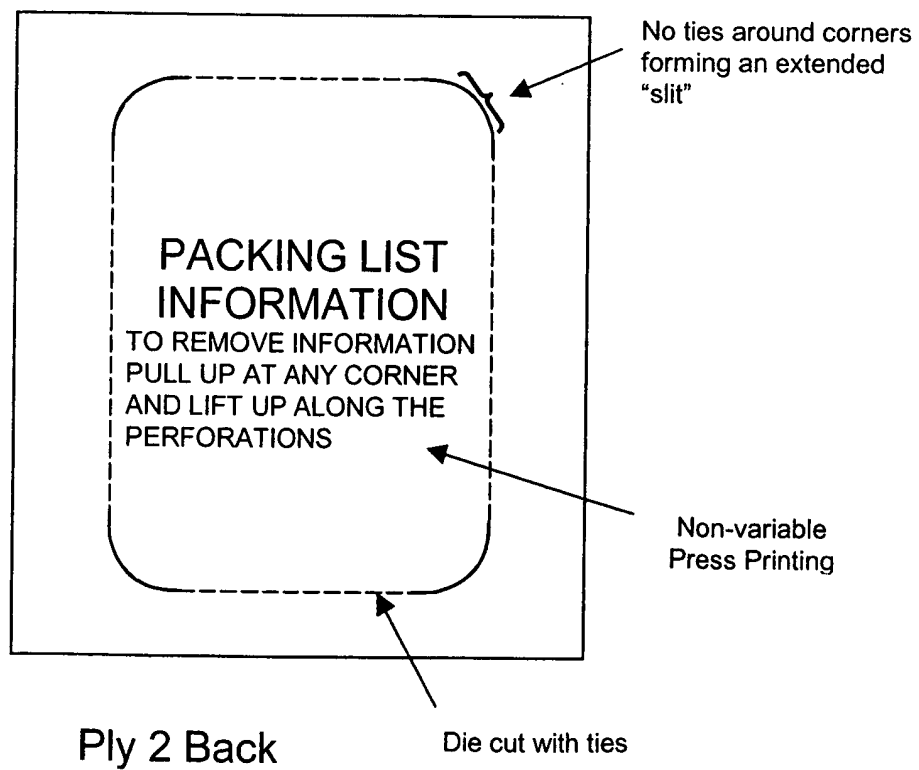
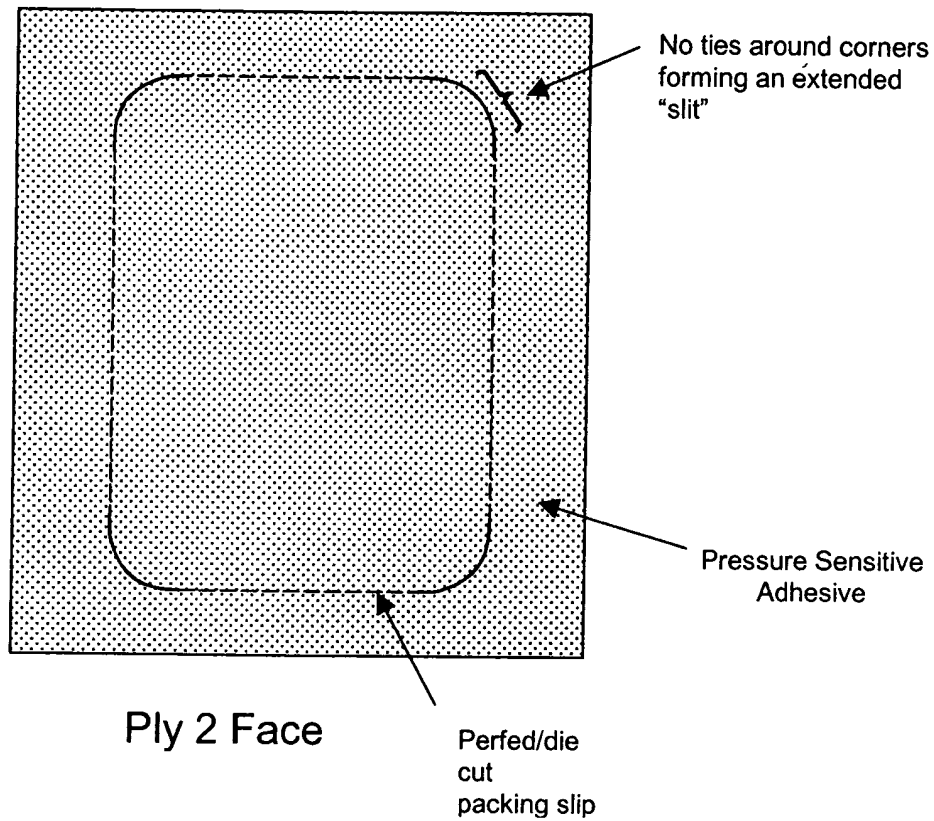
Ply 1 face



Ply 1 back

Full die cut preferably with no perf ties

DESCRIPTION OR SKETCH



DESCRIPTION OR SKETCH

In another embodiment, a shipping label is included adjacent the aforementioned packing slip, allowing both to be printed in a single pass through a printer and eliminating the need to match a ship label to the proper packing slip. This embodiment virtually eliminates the risk of mis-matched ship labels/packing slips being applied to cartons or packages. The shipping label may be horizontally adjacent the packing slip, or it may be vertically adjacent the packing slip.

Preferably, a perforation separates the shipping label portion from the packing slip portion, though this is not a requirement. As in the previous embodiment, one side of the label has full adhesive on the back of ply one and pattern silicone on the face of ply two. Ply one would be die-cut to form the ship label. Silicon is applied to the face of ply two only in the area behind the die cut ship label, allowing the ship label to be separated from ply two and affixed to a carton or package.

The other side of the label has full adhesive on the face of ply two and pattern silicon on the back of ply one. Plies one and two are die cut to form a packing slip. The die cut consists of perforations at all four sides of a rectangle with a cut at one or more corners through both plies. No silicone is applied between the two plies in the packing slip area, so that the packing slip becomes, in effect, a single sheet comprised of ply one and ply two with adhesive therebetween.

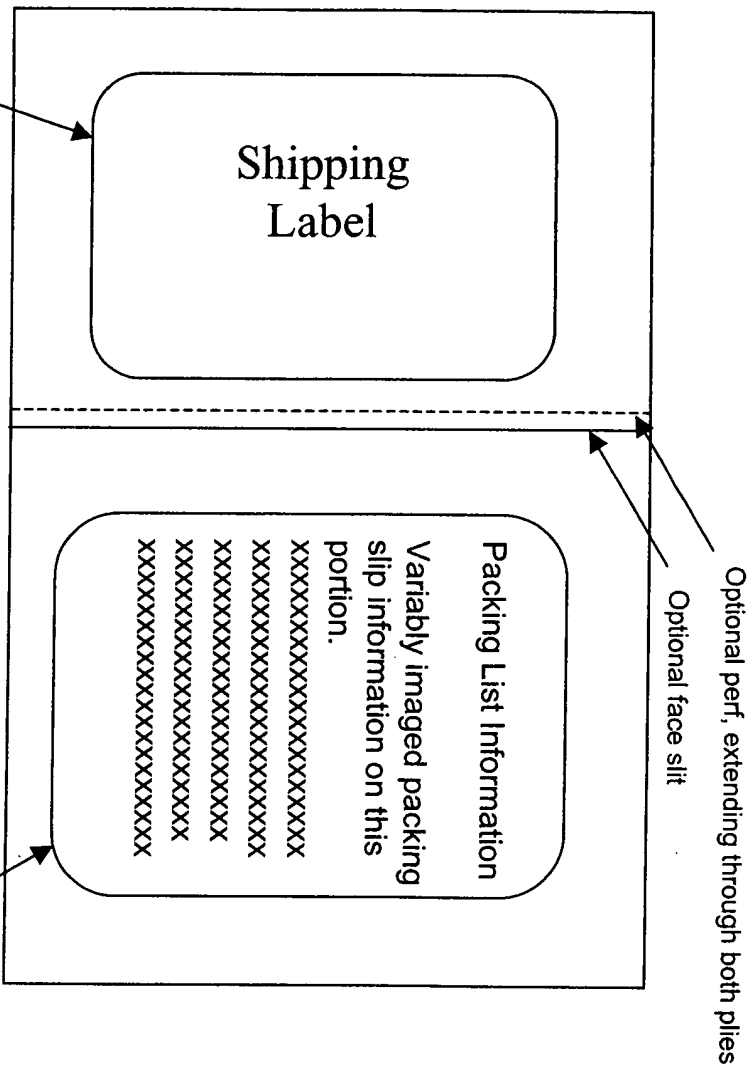
A "frame" of silicone is applied to the back of ply one around the perimeter of the packing slip. This frame is typically ~ 1/2" or greater on all four sides, although, the width of each side does not have to be the same. The pattern silicone on the back of ply one allows the user to remove a "frame" of ply one around the perimeter of the packing slip exposing a "frame" of adhesive on the face of ply two. The user affixes the packing slip label to a carton or package with the printed packing slip information facing the carton or package. The "frame" of adhesive affixes the label. The packing slip information (contents of carton or package) is not visible during transit - typically a requirement of the shipper.

The package recipient can remove the packing slip by pulling up at a "cut" corner and lifting up at the perforations. Typically, instructions are pre-printed on the back of ply two advising how to remove the packing slip.

While the drawing depicts a design for processing through a cut sheet laser or ink jet printer, the same construction can be utilized for labels processed through a continuous laser, continuous impact, thermal or thermal transfer printers. See drawings on the pages 6 – 9. *[Drawing Electronic File Names: PD02-14-Reffet-drw; PD02-14-ply1F-drw; PD02-14-ply1B-drw; PD02-14-ply2F-drw; PD02-14-ply2B-drw]*

RELEVANT ART:

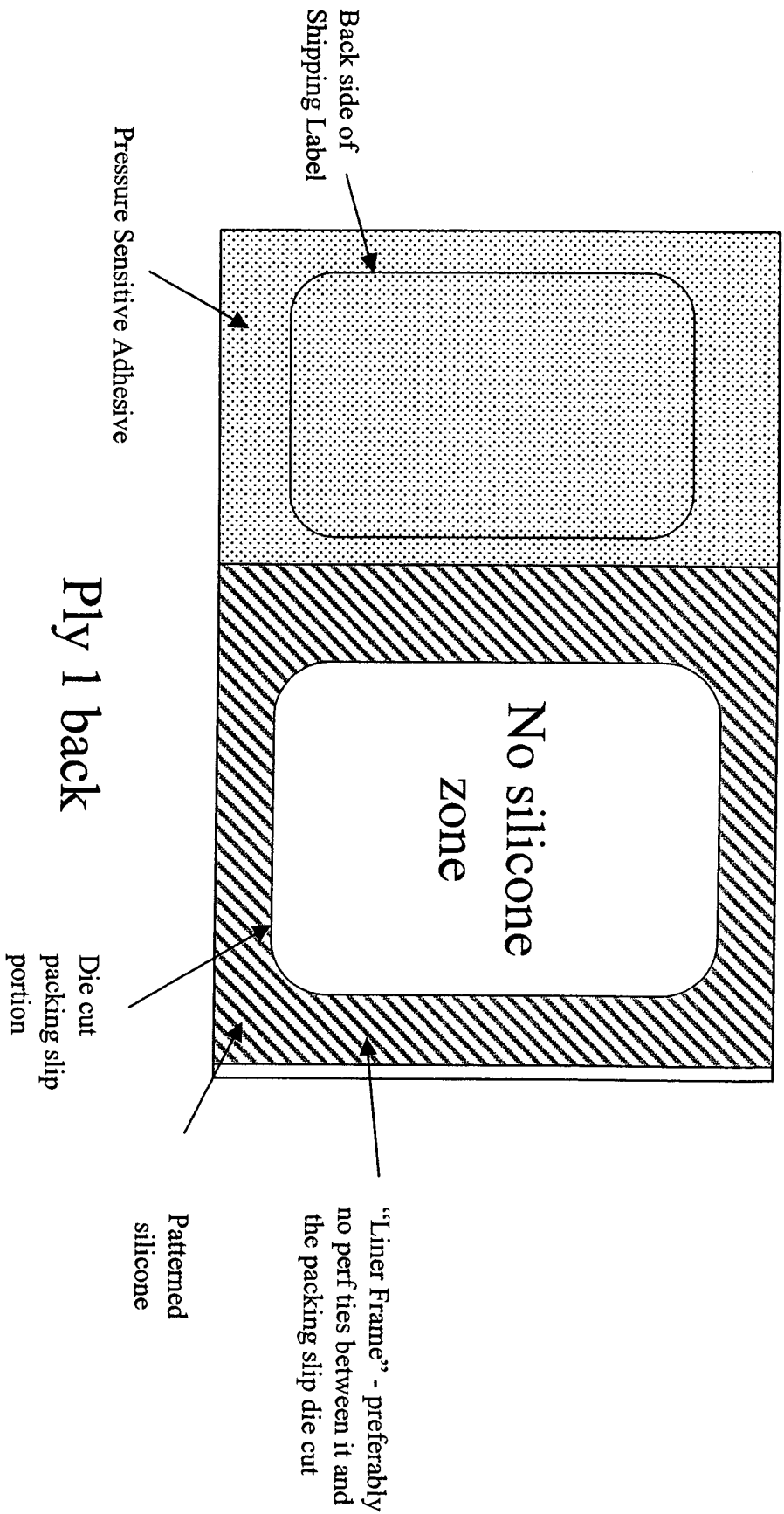
Fox IV Technologies, Export, PA, offers a packing list label that comprises a printed pattern of pressure sensitive adhesive in window frame fashion around the perimeter of a die cut label ply. It further comprises a liner ply with a large center portion die cut and the chip removed, exposing a large portion of the back of the label ply. This leaves a window frame of liner covering the window frame of adhesive. The Fox IV label is then imaged through this liner window onto the exposed back of the label ply. The liner window strip is then removed, and the label is affixed to a carton with the packing list information hidden between the carton and the label face. A sample label and literature is enclosed in a supplemental package included with this invention record.

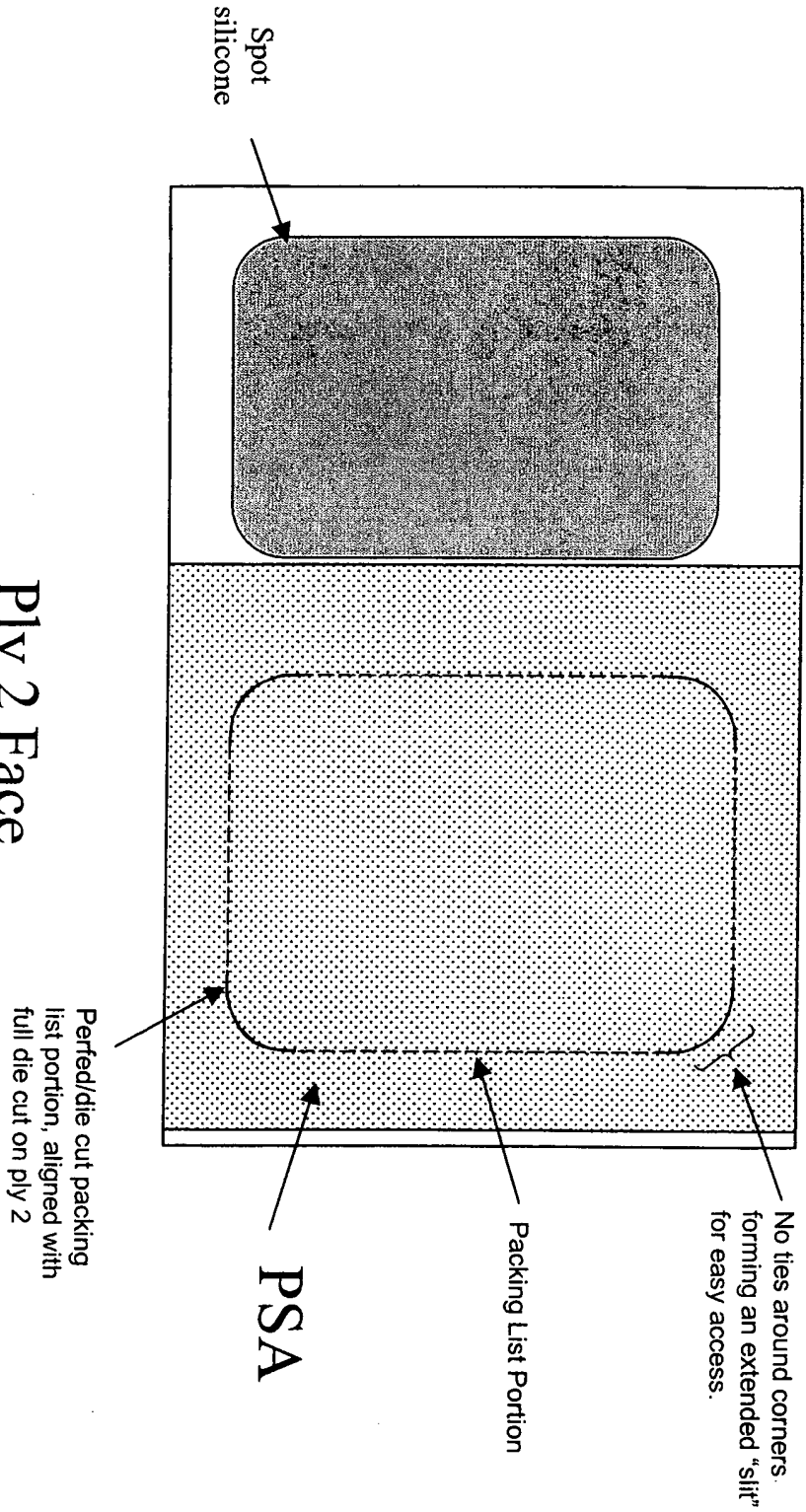


Ply 1 face

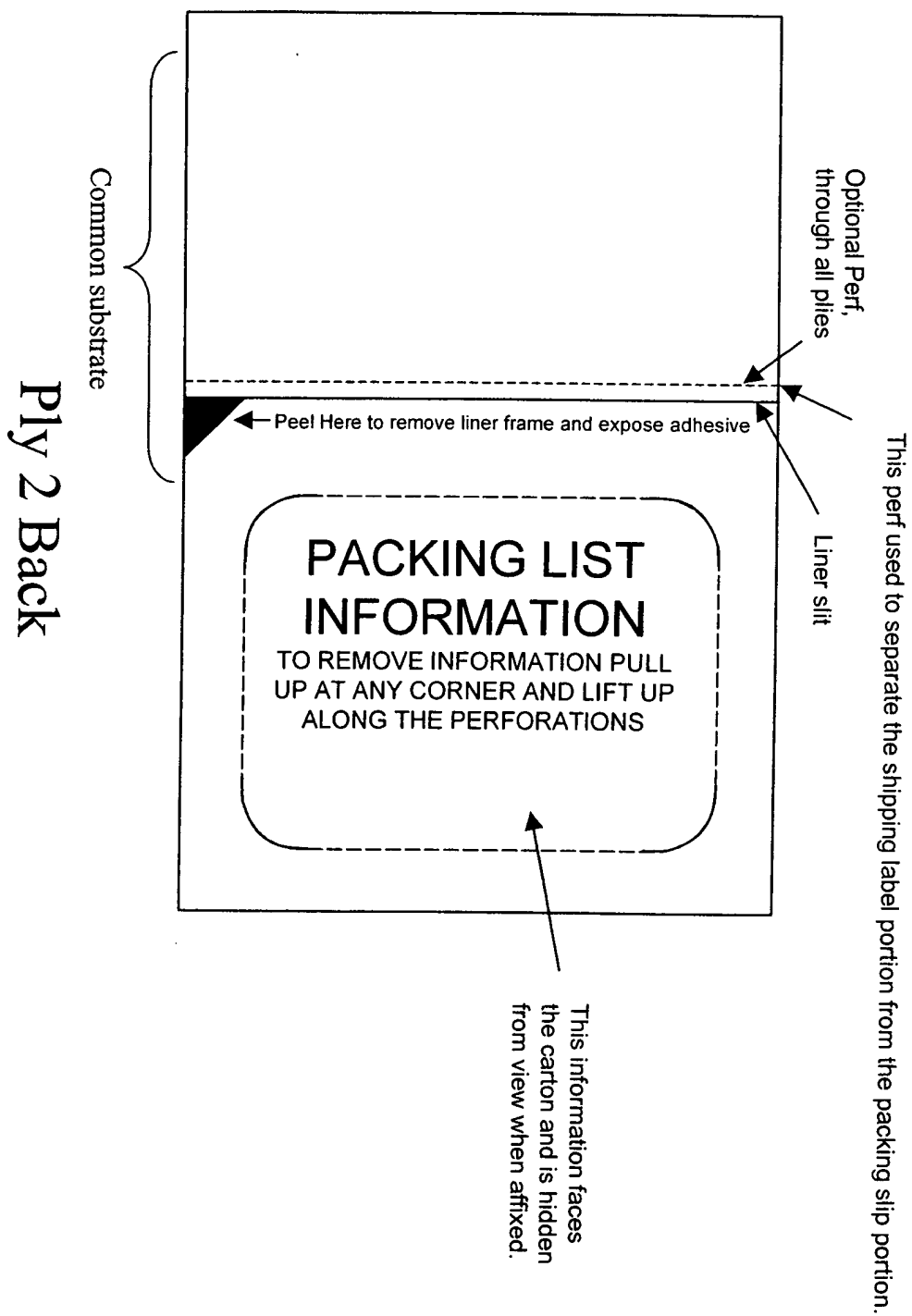
Die Cut through Ply 1 only

Full Die cut, aligned with a perfed die cut on ply 2





Ply 2 Face

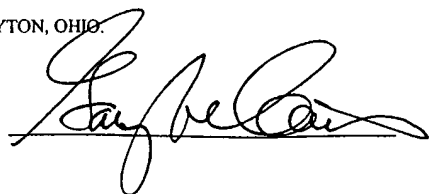


SIGNED BY THE INVENTORS THIS _____ DAY OF _____ 20 ____ AT THE STANDARD REGISTER COMPANY, DAYTON, OHIO

SIGNATURE OF INVENTORS

THE UNDERSIGNED READ THIS INVENTION RECORD AND UNDERSTANDS THE INVENTION DESCRIBED WITHIN, THIS

DAY OF February AT THE STANDARD REGISTER COMPANY, DAYTON, OHIO.



WITNESSES.



STD1141PI

PD02-14
DB

Gary M. Cairns
Direct Line: 937-221-1492
Direct Fax: 937-221-1856
gary.cairns@standardregister.com

RECEIVED

[REDACTED]
James F. Gottman, Esq.
Killworth, Gottman, Hagan & Schaeff
One Dayton Center
One South Main Street, Suite 500
Dayton, OH 45402-2023

PD02-14: Invention Record for PACKING SLIP LABEL AND COMBINATION PACKING SLIP LABEL/SHIPPING LABEL FORM

Dear Jim:

Enclosed is an Invention Record that teaches a printable packing slip label and a combination shipping label/packing slip label that can be printed in one pass. The packing list portion is variably imaged in the center portion of a die cut liner, and an outer window frame of liner is removed, exposing adhesive. The label is then affixed to a carton with the imaged packing list portion facing the carton and is thus hidden from view. This eliminates the need for the traditional packing slip pouch commonly used to encase a separately imaged packing slip, which must be folded and slipped inside the pouch that is subsequently affixed to a carton.

The combination shipping label/packing list label allows for simultaneous printing of both connected labels, eliminating the chance for error in matching up packing lists with shipping labels. Would you please arrange for a patentability search and render an opinion as to its patentability?

Included with the invention record is a packet of supplemental drawings, mock-ups, demo forms, and information concerning relevant art of competitor, "Fox IV."

I combined two invention records into one. I have not obtained signatures of the inventors on the combined invention record to date, but will forward you a copy of the signed version, once this task is completed. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call.

Regards,

Gary M. Cairns
Manager, Intellectual Property

Enclosures

cc: (all w/encls.)
S. McDonell
K. Lamme, Esq.
B. Waggoner
T. Dew - RNH/979
T. Reffett - SPG/61

ATTACHMENT B





UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
 United States Patent and Trademark Office
 Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
 www.uspto.gov

APPL NO.	FILING OR 371 (c) DATE	ART UNIT	FIL FEE REC'D	ATTY. DOCKET NO	DRAWINGS	TOT CLMS	IND CLMS
10/693,469	10/24/2003	3722	1148	STD 1141 PA/41213.507	14	41	3

CONFIRMATION NO. 2532

DINSMORE & SHOHL LLP
 Suite 500
 One Dayton Centre
 Dayton, OH 45402-2023

FILING RECEIPT



OC000000011770142

RECEIVED
 JAN 29 2004
 CLD/DOCKETING

Date Mailed: 01/27/2004

Receipt is acknowledged of this regular Patent Application. It will be considered in its order and you will be notified as to the results of the examination. Be sure to provide the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION when inquiring about this application. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please write to the Office of Initial Patent Examination's Filing Receipt Corrections, facsimile number 703-746-9195. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the USPTO processes the reply to the Notice, the USPTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections (if appropriate).

Applicant(s)

Ted J. Reffett, Woodstock, IL;

Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant

Foreign Applications

If Required, Foreign Filing License Granted: 01/23/2004

Projected Publication Date: Request for Non-Publication Acknowledged

Non-Publication Request: Yes

Early Publication Request: No

Title

Combination shipping label and packing slip form

Preliminary Class

283

ATTACHMENT C